

FINAL MEETING NOTES
CRCIP AMT Quarterly Meeting
January 10, 2007

The CRCIP Adaptive Management Team held its quarterly meeting from 9:30 am – 3:30 pm on January 10, 2007 at the Robert Duncan Plaza, Executive Office Team Room. The following AMT members and technical support personnel participated in person or via telephone:

Laura Hicks, COE	Dale Blanton, DLCD*	Agnes Lut, ODEQ
Kim Larson, COE	Loree` Randall, WDOE*	Paula Ehlers, WDOE*
Marci Cook, COE	Dianne Perry, Sponsor Ports*	Tim Whitesel, COE**
Steve Bartell, E2 Inc.	Cathy Tortorici, NMFS	
Greg Smith, FWS	Robert Anderson, NMFS	

* participants via telephone

** technical presentation

The following topics were addressed by the AMT participants at the meeting:

August 2006 Meeting Notes

The revised meeting notes from the August 2006 meeting were approved. E2 will post these final notes to the E2 FTP site. The finalized notes will be placed in the folder that identifies the August 2006 meeting.

October 2006 Meeting Notes

Several modifications to the draft October 2006 Meeting Notes were requested. The changes will be made and the revised notes will be placed on the E2 FTP site for further review. The notes will be offered for finalization at the April 2007 AMT Meeting.

During the discussion, concerns were expressed about the structure and organization of AEM Project information stored on the E2 FTP site. E2 will work with the Corps and the AMT to better organize the Project information on the FTP site. Care will also be given in the naming of folders and files to make it easier to find information.

Project Construction Update

The Corps indicated that current Project construction might be delayed because of unanticipated repairs to the contractor's dredging vessel, which is currently in dry-dock. WDOE requested documentation of the schedule for completion and progress on individual construction projects (e.g., Woodland Bottoms, Martin Island, Chumley).

Regarding a separate Project construction issue, NMFS noted that the Biological Opinion included the need to review Project blasting plans, particularly in relation to noise that might impact fish and whales. NMFS also asked about the Shillapoo project. The Corps responded that there were concerns regarding potential fish stranding associated with periodic draining of two large cells behind the flood control dike.

WDOE inquired whether the Puget Island scour hole had sufficient capacity for disposal of Project dredged materials. The Corps responded that overwidth dredging volumes should be within the capacity of this disposal site. WDOE indicated that higher-level management within Washington had expressed interest in all aspects of Project dredging and disposal.

The Corps reinforced its intent to provide the States with the opportunity to review Project contracts. The Corps is also going forward with applications for renewal of 401 certifications.

Although not directly relevant to the AMT agenda, additional discussion addressed the proposed plans of liquid natural gas (LNG) projects to dispose of materials on Puget Island. The Corps maintains that its disposal sites are not available to LNG developers. This LNG dredge disposal plan may force WDOE to engage. FWS suggested that the downstream end of the island, behind the dike might be suitable. Two sites for disposal might be available at this end of the island. WDOE noted that Washington will accept dredged materials from Oregon, if these materials can be included for beneficial use.

AEM Workbook Review

The status of each activity addressed by the overall CRCIP AEM Process is reported in the AEM Workbook. This provides the opportunity to efficiently step-through updates of each of these activities during the quarterly AMT meetings. The AEM Workbook is a working document that records ongoing Project construction and the results of the Project monitoring, as well as deliberations and decisions made by the AMT.

The AEM Workbook also serves as a convenient source of information for developing each Annual Report for the CRCIP AEM Project. During this January 2007 AMT meeting, the components of the Workbook were discussed largely within the context of developing the Annual Report for 2006.

Project Status Tracking

A table has been constructed to indicate the current status (e.g., not yet started, ongoing, completed) of each component of the AEM Process. Status is tracked and listed quarterly for each component. A separate status tracking document will be produced for each year of the AEM Project.

MA-1 CORIE Analyses

Plots that summarize the results of the temperature, salinity, and depth monitoring data in relation to the AEM decision criteria were presented. Discussion ensued concerning the timely availability of CORIE monitoring data. The CORIE director and the Corps have agreed that verified MA-1 data will be made publicly available (i.e., CORIE web site) 30 days after the end of the month. For example, December 2006 data should be available on February 1, 2007. This scheduling will introduce a time-lag in MA-1 reporting at the quarterly AMT Meetings.

The completed plots and corresponding tables of MA-1 results for 2006 will become a permanent part of the AEM Workbook. These plots and tables will be used in constructing the annual report. Results for subsequent years will be included in the Workbook as they become available. At the request of the AMT, E2 will examine ways to include the results of MA-1 analyses for successive years on a single plot each for temperature, salinity, and depth.

MA-2 Dredging Summary

The form and content of the previously developed spreadsheet summary of Project dredging and disposal of dredged materials has been accepted by the AMT. The Project construction information contained in this spreadsheet will be included in the Annual Report.

MA-3 Crossline Surveys

Additional pre-construction crossline surveys have been conducted since the original decision criteria (i.e., “depth envelopes”) were calculated. The newly acquired data will be used to revise the depth envelopes. These revised criteria will be used to evaluate the results of corresponding post-construction crossline surveys.

MA-4 Habitat Surveys

Discussion focused on concerns expressed by NMFS that the original 2-year (2006-2008) Project construction period might well be extended. The MA-4 monitoring plan was developed under the assumption of a 2-year construction period. The dynamics of the Project are different from the Biological Opinion and Biological Assessment.

MA-5 Sediment Contaminants

NMFS indicated that the Corps either recently had or would soon convene a meeting to review of sediment contaminant data. Information on the meeting would be provided on the FTP site or at the next AMT meeting. Mark Siipola will be invited to the meeting.

MA-6 Fish Stranding

The pre-construction evaluation of fish stranding has been completed (ref). The final report has been posted to the E2 FTP site. Previously presented summary tables of the results of these analyses will be included in the AEM Workbook. The form and content of these tables has been accepted by the AMT.

Sediments

Discussion of sediment issues occurred separately (see below). The final product of this discussion will be included in the AEM Workbook.

Sturgeon, smelt, crab

Analyses of sturgeon habitat preferences are apparently completed. The project report, however, has not yet been delivered to the Corps. The Corps will check on the status of the report.

DLCD stated that some issues concerning the analysis of crab entrainment need resolution for closure. ODFW might have some remaining issues as well and DLCD suggested a conversation with ODFW outside of the AMT. DLCD will report back to the AMT. Washington Ecology would like to review the crab report even though the due date for review and comment has passed. The AMT reaffirmed its commitment to a 30-day review period, and to WDOE's review. However, the AMT would not be bound to address the review comments.

No new issues concerning smelt were raised at the January 2007 meeting.

Electronic AEM Workbook on E2 FTP Site and CRCIP Web Site

E2 will collaborate with the Corps to develop an electronic version of the AEM Workbook. The format of the electronic version will match the hardcopy version in its overall structure. E2 will post the working version of the electronic AEM Workbook to its FTP site. AMT participants with access to the E2 FTP site are invited to download new additions or modifications to the Workbook as needed in advance of AMT Quarterly Meetings.

As components of the Workbook become finalized, they will be transferred to the CRCIP Project Web Site.

AEM 2006 Final Report

The AMT agreed that the Final Report for 2006 would largely follow the format of the AEM Workbook. Much of the discussion of the Final Report occurred during the previous discussion of the AEM Workbook. The AMT reiterated its desire that each annual Final Report will be produced as a separate, stand-alone document. The 2006 Report will also refer back to relevant data and information developed during 2005 AMT

activities to establish continuity throughout the AEM Process. Subsequent annual reports will similarly refer back to the previous year to maintain continuity.

E2 will collaborate with the Corps to produce a draft 2006 Final Report for dissemination to the AMT by February 2, 2007. It was noted that MA-1 CORIE data for December 2006 might not be available for the initial draft. The analyses of the December data will be incorporated by E2 as soon as they are completed – presumably sometime between February 2 and 15, depending on the availability of the December 2006 CORIE data.

WDOE Revision to Sediment Draft

Discussion continued from previous meetings concerning the development of a sediment management component for the Project AEM Process. Discussions at the January AMT Meeting were largely in response to a draft sediment document previously circulated by the Corps. A request was made to include the exact language from each state that identifies state requirements. NMFS also requested that a clear description of the process for management of dredged materials. The description should address (1) disposal of dredged materials, and (2) relocation of sediments previously disposed on upland sites. The Corps indicated that such a description was in the current sediment document. It was also noted that materials disposed on upland sites were classified as a potentially solid waste that required additional testing before being used for beneficial purposes.

NMFS requested information concerning the volume of dredged materials placed in each of the upland locations. The Corps can provide the placement volumes. However, the states sell these materials from the sites and the current inventories might not be known for each disposal location.

The Corps will continue to work with the AMT to reach consensus on the sediment component of the CRCIP AEM Process.

Presentation of Tenasillahe Island Restoration Project

Tim Whitesel described the pre-construction phase of a project aimed at increasing the usefulness of tide gates for passage of juvenile salmonids. Whitesel compared the pre-construction juvenile salmon utilization of gates at a reference site at Welch Island with Tenasillahe Island, the proposed site for modification of tide gates.

Whitesel's slide presentation will be posted to the E2 FTP site.

Proposed Definitions for CRCIP

The AMT agreed on the following Project definitions:

Project: channel deepening, not including 40-foot O&M
Project Construction: from RM 3 to 106 as defined by the 401
and the BiOp

Project Reach Construction: specified project reach construction,
should specify the reach river miles

Suggestions for April 2007 AMT Agenda

Two items were suggested in addition to the normal course of business for the April 2007 AMT Meeting:

- NMFS requested that the Project duration be addressed in relation to MA-4 monitoring
- MA-5 – Mark Siipola to attend the next meeting to discuss SEDQUAL.